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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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April 27, 2022

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman and Ranking Member,

I am requesting \$500,000 in funding for the Advancing Educational Program for Girls to Achieve Socio-Economic Independence in fiscal year 2023 through the Innovation and Improvement Account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Pace Center for Girls, Inc. located at 6745 Philips Industrial Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32256.

The funding would be used to ensure more than 100 at-risk middle and high school-aged girls in Leon County achieve long-term socio-economic independence. With this funding, Pace Center for Girls Leon will purchase a web-based instructional platform focused on core curriculum, credit recovery, and test preparation to close the learning gap exacerbated by the pandemic. The instructional platform also includes a teacher professional development framework focused on equity, cultural competence, setting high expectations, developmental appropriateness, accommodating individual needs, effective technology integration, and student responsibility to enhance essential skills for our teachers and create a supportive learning environment. This project will also update technology and learning materials in classrooms, counseling offices, and direct care programming areas. This project is a good use of taxpayers funds because when at-risk girls graduate from high school, enter post-secondary education, and find permanent employment, they are more likely to become productive citizens, and their children are more likely to become economically independent.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Al Lawson
Member of Congress